

# KRYDERACING NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 8

December 8, 2008

## “HELPING PEOPLE ACHIEVE THEIR RACING OBJECTIVES”

The racing season is supposedly over. So why are we so busy? Actually if you stopped by the shop things might look a little slow. But behind the scenes there are numerous end-of-year wrap-ups being processed. And planning for next year is starting to pick up speed as schedule details for 2009 unfold.

### 2008 PODIUM FINISHES

A couple of years ago we noticed a major improvement in podium finishes by Kryderacing clients. Naturally we felt it was a good season resulting from a lot of hard work. But we also felt luck probably played a large part in the sizable jump in the number of those successes. The following year, 2007, our goal was to equal 2006. Again, the number of podium finishes increased. Obviously there was something beyond luck which resulted in these successes. The trend continued in 2008 with 31 wins, 23 seconds, and 8 third place finishes. All three of these positions show increases from 2007. There was a NASA National Championship by David Pintaric in the ST2 class, a SCCA Divisional Championship by John Buttermore in the T-1 class (he also finished a close second in the SCCA national championship race), and several local series championships. Several new track records were established along the way. What makes this look even more impressive is when you take into account a reduction in activities from some of the previous winners. Bring on 2009.

### STREETS OF WILLOW

Each year we travel to Willow Springs, California to facilitate a one-day program with some of the best people you would ever want to know. It started a long time ago when Russ Wilson decided to show some of his friends how much fun it was to drive their cars under conditions which featured no speed limits other than those related to driver and vehicle capabilities. Russ invited good friend Paul Arevalo and other associates. Kryderacing provided driving instructors to help keep everyone safe while giving tips on going fast. Some years we drove the “big” course at Willow Springs, but this year we were on the more technical “Streets of Willow”. There were approximately 25 participants and a dozen instructors. The Kryderacing crew consisted of Reed managing the program, Sandi handling much of the logistics and lunch, Matt Miller instructing (he also had the job of transporting Russ’s Corvette ZR-1 to the track), and Matt Carson as lead man on tech inspection and chasing mechanical issues. Instructors consisted of John Morton (a man with too many accomplishments to mention), Gary Martz (longtime Kryderacing client on his first trip to the West Coast), Mike and Chris Puskar (veteran racers and owners of Carbotech Brake Pads), and Jim Bishop (not only a fast driver, but one of the most talented classroom instructors you could ever find). Several of the more experienced drivers participating in the program also helped get the rookies off to a good start.

The only problems encountered were minor in nature and the result of off-course excursions. A punctured tire was probably the most costly, but Mark Montgomery’s Corvette won the prize for most dramatic in appearance, both while it was happening and afterwards. When Mark spun off the track the Corvette disappeared into a thick cloud of dust. When the cloud settled, a lot of the dust was on, and in, Mark’s car. Following the incident his car disappeared from the track for a lengthy time before returning all clean and shiny, inside and outside.

This year’s program started with a dinner for those arriving the night before track activities and ended with our after-event get-together to enjoy a sandwich and beer while telling stories about the day’s activities. Early talk regarding next year is leaning towards a return to the “big” track.

## RIP

We didn't know where to put this in the newsletter. It's not right to start or end things on a sad note so we stuck this item in the middle. A couple of weeks ago we learned of the death of a good friend, Bobby Basso. Bobby is survived by his wife Freda and we understand she is doing very well. Bobby was an attorney in New York and one of the most unique persons you would ever want to meet. While attending school he and a friend got interested in road racing at Watkins Glen.. When he became an attorney he didn't have the time for such pursuits and drifted away for the next twenty-plus years. Then one Fall, he and Freda were driving around the Finger Lakes area and he decided to see if he could find the remains of this old track (Watkins Glen) he once enjoyed visiting. To their surprise, not only was the track still there, but there was a race weekend in progress. For the next 15 years of his life Bobby raced anything he could get his hands on. He only drove at the Glen, except for one time. He tested a super modified at an oval. He rented the SSB and ITS class Kryderacing 240SX many times, drove our IMSA GTU car, and raced everything from small Formula Vees to fire breathing V-8 GT-1s. He crewed for us at Daytona. He was always trying to have as much fun as possible during his life. Along the way we discovered Bobby and his friends loved to play practical jokes on each other. There will probably be at least one evening next year when a bunch of us are tipping a few drinks and telling stories about Bobby. We will all be laughing and smiling as we remember this great gentleman.

## 2008 KRYDERACING REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES ANNUAL BANQUET

The banquet for the 26<sup>th</sup> annual edition of our series was held November 15<sup>th</sup>. Below you will find a complete listing of the award winners. The banquet was a huge success and attendance was up considerably from last year. Handling the awards presentations for the first time were the Nelson Ledges radios announcers, Kevin Stolicny and Marv Gray. They did a terrific job. During the evening various Regional Executives each talked about their plans for 2009. Scott Lane informed everyone about Nelson Ledges Road Course plans for 2009. Mazza Wineries provided some delicious wine for the evening and special bottles of bubbly for the Champions. And Reed announced a major change in the Kryderacing Series for next year.

Since its inception the series has been targeted towards local drivers only. Over the years we occasionally have been asked if we would expand to other tracks. For one reason or another, it never seemed like a good idea. BeaveRun did not exist when the series started, but it does now. And the two tracks share a large number of the same local drivers. So we have decided to include the Steel Cities Region Double Regional at BeaveRun in the 2009 Series. We are also considering adding additional "non-Nelson" Regional events and making other changes. A complete schedule along with necessary rule changes will be released in the next few months.

We are also working towards having associates for the series. We would like companies whose participation offers competitors something in return for their support of the series. In the past we have had specific awards targeted towards a spec class or specific vehicle type. We have also had awards which are presented as door prizes at the banquet. There must be a return to the associated company for this to succeed. It must be a win-win situation. The initial list of potential associates has been written, but we are open to additional suggestions, especially original ideas.

## KRYDERACING/NELSON LEDGES DRIVERS SCHOOL

Another new project for 2009 is the creation of a drivers school at Nelson Ledges Road Course. Track Manager Scott Lane and Reed have been discussing this for a long time. Everyone wants to get something going for the coming year. Initially no one is looking for anything along the lines of Skip Barber or the Mid-Ohio programs. What we do want to offer is training in basic skills as well as specifics regarding the Nelson Ledges Road Course. It's too early to talk about details, but our goal is to be totally ready for the track's opening next Spring.

Initially, the above was not going to be announced until we were close to finalizing the details. But we would appreciate some input as to what drivers are looking for from such a program. Reed has been involved with several schools over the years. Some concentrate on driving techniques while others teach the art of racing. Some are heavy on classrooms while others are almost entirely on-track. What are the advantages of group instruction versus one-on-one? Do you want an instructor riding along as a passenger or do you want to be a passenger riding with an instructor? We will probably customize the schooling to individual needs, but any thoughts you have would be helpful.

## 2008 KRYDERACING REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL RESULTS

The 2008 season consisted of ten regional events covering five weekends. Sports Car Club of America Regions organizing the events included NEOhio, Finger Lakes, Mahoning Valley and Western Ohio. The top positions in each class were:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Champion</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Third</u>	<u>Fourth</u>	<u>Fifth</u>
AS	Dale Gebhardt	Martin Shook	Herm Melotti	R. Lewis	B. Lickliger
C F	Wayne Nicolette	Paul Derov	Joe Marcinski	C. VanNostrand	
DP	Robert Mazza				
DSR	Allen Franzolino	Vince Massa	Robert Salley	G. Machiko	
EP	Jim Llewellyn & Greg Schnell (tie)		Bill Schauer	M. Helm	B. Emery
F500	Ned Barefoot	Eric Dean	Jim Goebelbecker	R. Strate Jr.	H. Colwell
FA	Norm Fox	Lewis Cooper Jr.			
FC	Doug Brown	Scott Lawrence	Steven Mc Williams	C. Watson	
FE	Brian Good				
FF	James Dietz	Gary Dean	Bob Albert		
FM	James Esgrow				
FP	Ken Alderson	Larry Funk	Rick Kristoff	M. McMahan	C. Wood
FV	Harold Johnston	Al Spadin	Richard Johnstone	P. Nielsen	R. Ruckman
GP	Cathy Alexander	Dave Hammer	Jim Sloan	O. Hearty	
GT-1	Al Gaudino	Boris Tirpack	Jim Junior	B. Goetz	
GT-2	Gerry Hudson				
GT-3	John Petrone				
GT-Lite	Michael Saddleton	Mark Connolly	Craig Wood	B. Pintaric	
HP	Dave English	Dickson Dawson	Greg Vandersluis	C. Himes	D. LaFond
ITA	David Mills	Scott Nutter	Greg Vandersluis	R. Jarrett	J. Keillor
ITB	Aaron Gills	Kyle Seldon	David Gills	E. Hiltner	C. Ednie
ITC	Bill Shearer	Jim Royal	Jason Jacko	G. Swanson	C. Holbrook
ITE	Jerry Waltenberger	Sterling Bradley	Deidre Lutsch	R. Hahn	F. Baker
ITR	Martin Lutsch	Chris Dercole	Dan Jones	B. Thomasmeyer	
ITS	Abdulrab Aziz	Dan Harding	Jon Kofod	C. Pat Kane	M. Keefer
S2000	Bill Kasmer				
SM	Charlie Campbell	Bob Kucera	Dan Harding	B. Post	T. Jacobs

SPU	Jason Neal	Ken Fisher	Philip Ackley	P. Baumgartner	
SRF	Greg Grucella	Dave Lancaster	Bill Johnson	M. Hausknecht	J. Tibor
SSC	Bruce Keillor	Al Sauerland Jr.	Mary Hartman	Larry Ray	
ST	Frank Barba				
T1	John Stracensky	Trevor Hutter	Jerry Lancaster	A. Quine	N. Betts
T2	Derry Martin				
T3	Jerry Wannarka				

## PRI

The second week in December will see several of us making our annual trip to the Performance Racing Industry Trade Show. Lately the show has been located in Orlando, which makes for a long trip. But at least the weather is warm. This year Reed and Sandi will be attending a HANS Training Seminar as well as attending the show. If this gets to you prior to the December 11-13 show dates and you want us to research something please call at 330-854-4889 or email [www.kryderacing.com](http://www.kryderacing.com).

## ITEMS FOR SALE

Christmas is rapidly approaching and we have several great gifts available. The HANS device is perfect for someone you care a lot about (and that includes yourself). Now is also a good time to check your safety gear for its legality in 2009. Will your seat belts (or other items) become "out-of-date" next year? If you race SCCA be aware that tech officials (and Chief Stewards) are no longer allowed to let safety items slip by for even a single event. No more notations of "get it fixed by the next event" in vehicle logbooks if the subject is a safety item. We also recently received several of the new Impact Helmets. We can order safety gear from any of the major manufacturers. Now is a great time to put these things on your Christmas wish list.

Are you a collector of racing memorabilia? There is an area of [www.kryderacing.com](http://www.kryderacing.com) containing a large listing of old magazines and race programs. We also have several things not on the list. These include NASCAR garage passes from the early 1980's, a couple of Indianapolis belt buckles and pit passes from the seventies, and of course lots of left-over parts from the Nissans we have raced over these many years.

And don't forget our shop and trackside services. As mentioned last issue, we expect to get very busy in the March-April time frame due to the beginning of the racing season for many of our clients. Now is a good time to schedule shop work. And with 2009 race schedules being released we are starting to receive schedules from our clients requesting our trackside services. We can already tell you we will be making several trips to Elkhart Lake's Road America. Our motto has always been "Helping People Achieve Their Racing Objectives". Let us know your racing objectives.

## SEASONS GREETING

The holidays are upon us. From Thanksgiving to Christmas and through New Year Day it seems as if there is something special either happening or about to happen. During most of the year people have bonded together through their work or common interests (like racing). But now is the time when family and friends get together to celebrate their relationships. We at Kryderacing feel blessed with having all of you as our friends. We hope you have a joyous holiday season and a very happy new year.

Check [www.kryderacing.com](http://www.kryderacing.com) for weekly updates.